THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BIR BAHADUR SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Upgradation of the rural telecom. network is planned for all the states progressively.

(c) No separate allocation has been made for upgradation of rural telecom. network.

पोलियस्टर स्टेपल फाइबर के मूल्यों में वृद्धि

360. **श्री राम जेठमलानी :**
श्री राम नरेश यादव :

क्या **उद्योग** मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि पॉलियस्टर स्टेपल फाइबर के विनिर्माताओं ने अभी हाल ही में अपने उत्पादों के मूल्यों में भारी वृद्धि कर दी है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो इस मूल्य वृद्धि के क्या कारण हैं और यह मूल्य वृद्धि कितनी की गई है;

(ग) क्या सरकार ने इस मूल्य वृद्धि को रोकने के लिए कोई कदम उठाये हैं; और

(घ) यदि हां, तो उनका ब्यौरा क्या है ?

उद्योग मंत्री (श्री जे. वेंगलराव) (क) से (घ) कुछ अंतर्वस्तुओं की लागत में कथित वृद्धि के कारण जुलाई, 1988 में विनिर्माताओं ने पालिएस्टर स्टेपल फाइबर के मूल्यों में 15 से 20 प्रतिशत की वृद्धि की है। कपड़ा आयुक्त की अध्यक्षता में एक मूल्य मानीटरिंग समिति के माध्यम से स्थिति पर कड़ी निगरानी रखी जा रही है।

Prices of Cement

@3170. SHRIMATI KANAK MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the prices of levy cement and non-levy-cement per quintal during the last three years; year-wise; and

(b) whether Government propose to de-control it and if so, the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M ARUNACHALAM): (a) As regards levy cement, according to the Cement Control Order, 1967, its price is fixed on per tonne basis. Accordingly, Statement-I showing the prices of levy cement per tonne from 1.1.85 to 30th September, 1988, quarter-wise, is attached. As regards, non-levy cement, it is free from price & distribution control and its price is determined through the operation of market forces from time to time. Further, the open market price of cement is with reference to a bag of 50 Kgs. Statement-II showing the prices of non-levy cement per bag (including all taxes) as prevalent in the last week of each year from 1985 to 1987 and for 3rd week of July, 1988, in respect of four metropolitan cities is attached.

(b) Government have been progressively reducing the price and distribution controls on the cement industry, in recent years. However, no decision has been taken to decontrol cement fully.

@Previously Unstarred Question 2220 transferred from the 12th August, 1988.